

From: ["Washburn, Ben" </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP \(FYDIBOHF23SPDLT\)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=FDA03CBA30C542059E0AF4208DAD96DA-WASHBURN, BEN>](mailto:Ben.Washburn@EXCHANGELABS.COM)  
To:  
CC:  
Date: 4/25/2014 2:49:19 PM  
Subject: OPA Daily Digest 4/25/14

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## OPA Daily Digest for 4/25/14

### Congressional Inquiries:

**Sen. Claire McCaskill** (Mo.) – Phone Inquiry – 4/24/14: Inquiry regarding the cleanup levels of the Strecker Forest site in Wildwood. Due: 4/25/14. Contact: LaTonya Sanders, 7555 (closed)

**Sen. Tom Harkin** (Iowa) – Email – 4/24/14: Constituent concerns about redevelopment of the Des Moines TCE/Dico Superfund site in Des Moines. Due: 5/1/14. Contact: LaTonya Sanders, 7555 (open)

**Sen. Claire McCaskill** (Mo.) – Phone Inquiry – 4/22/14: Questions about Brownfields redevelopment of a former auto plant site in Fenton. Due: 4/25/14. Contact: LaTonya Sanders, 7555 (closed)

### State Government Inquiries:

None

### Press Inquiries:

**KZRG Radio, Joplin** – Joe Lancello – 4/22/14: Questions about use of mine tailings on a construction project in Joplin. Contact: Chris Whitley, 7394 (open)

**Charles Jaco (Freelance Journalist), St. Louis** – 4/23/14: Questions about West Lake Landfill Site in Bridgeton, Mo. Contact: Chris Whitley, 7394 (closed)

**KWQC-TV, Davenport, Iowa** – 4/25/15: Questions about water issues in Muscatine, Iowa. Contact: Kris Lancaster, 7557 (open)

**St. Louis Post-Dispatch** – 4/25/14: Questions about off-site sampling conducted by the community at the Bridgeton Municipal Athletic Complex. Contact: Ben Washburn, 7364 (open)

### Environmental Stories:

**Des Moines Register - Iowa doesn't need costs from EPA 'overreach'** - 4/25/14 - The EPA should defer to the states to decide how to best address carbon dioxide emissions for their residents. Iowa's officials should have the final say on the best path forward, not Washington regulators who are unfamiliar and unsympathetic to our local energy and economic

needs.

<http://www.desmoinesregister.com/story/opinion/readers/2014/04/25/iowa-costs-epa-overreach/8133347/>

**CornNation.com - 1973 Nebraska Football Spring Game: The EPA Documerica Project** - 4/24/14 - From 1972 to 1977 the Environmental Protection Agency sponsored the "Documerica" project where approximately 70 prominent photographers were hired to "photographically documents subjects of environmental concern".

<http://www.cornnation.com/2014/4/24/5636694/1973-nebraska-football-spring-game-the-epa-documerica-project>

**National Geographic - Study Deals Blow for Biofuels as EPA Lowers 2013 Mandate** - 4/24/14 - The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on Tuesday retroactively lowered the quantity of cellulosic biofuel required for blending in traditional fuels for 2013. In January the EPA agreed to reconsider the mandate "due to the reduced estimate of anticipated cellulosic biofuel production in 2013 that was announced shortly after EPA signed its final rule by one of two companies expected to produce cellulosic biofuel in 2013."

<http://newswatch.nationalgeographic.com/2014/04/24/study-deals-blow-for-biofuels-as-epa-lowers-2013-mandate/>

**KAIT-TV Ch. 8 - City of Kennett suing EPA, trying to block utility rate increase** - 4/25/14 - The City of Kennett is challenging new clean water standards set by the Environmental Protection Agency in March 2013. "In Kennett we can't be spending money frivolously on fixes that may or may not work," said City Light Gas & Water Superintendent David Wilkins.

<http://www.kait8.com/story/25337090/city-of-kennett-suing-epa-trying-to-block-utility-rate-increase>

**Huffington Post - The Climate Post: Study Deals Blow for Biofuels as EPA Lowers 2013 Mandate** - 4/25/14 - The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on Tuesday retroactively lowered the quantity of cellulosic biofuel required for blending in traditional fuels for 2013.

[http://www.huffingtonpost.com/tim-profeta/the-climate-post-study-de\\_b\\_5212150.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/tim-profeta/the-climate-post-study-de_b_5212150.html)

**Reuters - Amid Health Concerns, Nonprofit Urges EPA To Halt Apple Pesticide That's Already Banned In Europe** - 4/24/14 - U.S.-grown apples are widely coated with a pesticide that has been newly banned in the European Union amid health concerns, and the United States is at least a year behind in a required scientific assessment of the pesticide, an environmental group said on Thursday.

[http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2014/04/24/halt-apple-pesticide\\_n\\_5202901.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2014/04/24/halt-apple-pesticide_n_5202901.html)

**High Plains Journal - Cattlemen encouraged by FUELS Act** - 4/24/14 - HR311, the Farmers Undertake Environmental Land Stewardship (FUELS) Act, passed the House of Representatives recently. With the EPA's history of creating burdensome and overreaching regulations, this legislation makes an effort to prevent the agency from once again targeting independent producers.

<http://www.hpj.com/archives/2014/apr14/apr28/0327FUELSActsr.cfm?t=Cattlemen-encouraged-by-FUELS-Act>

**Garden City Telegram - Brownback signs Kansas' clean air act into law** - Tucked into this year's legislative bills is one that has not made as large a splash as school finance, but was nevertheless being closely followed in southwest Kansas. House Bill 2636, the Kansas clean air act, which grants the Kansas Department of Health and Environment the authority to formulate its own plan for meeting air-quality standards, was strongly advocated for by Sunflower Electric Corp.

<http://gctelegram.com/news/local/gov-signs-clean-air-act-4-25-14>

**The Hill - US power grid at the limit** - 4/25/14 - Environmental policies established by Congress and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) are moving us toward electrical grid failure. The capacity reserve margin for hot or cold weather events is shrinking in many regions. According to Philip Moeller, commissioner of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, "...the experience of this past winter indicates that the power grid is now already at the limit."

<http://thehill.com/blogs/congress-blog/energy-environment/204194-us-power-grid-at-the-limit>

**Des Moines Register - Stowe is victim of lack of regulations** - 4/25/14 - Rick Robinson of the Iowa Farm Bureau alleges that high nitrates in the Des Moines drinking water supply during spring run-off are due more from dead plants released from the spring thaw than from farms. Des Moines Water Works Director Bill Stowe's concerns about high nitrates in our water supply have primarily been during low-flow summer periods when organic releases are not a factor.

<http://www.desmoinesregister.com/story/opinion/readers/2014/04/25/bill-stowe-lack-regulations/8132823/>

**ThingProgress - Koch Brothers And ALEC Expand Fight On Clean Energy Users** - 4/25/14 - The right-wing American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC), an influential

lobbying group composed of Republican politicians and big businesses, is in the middle of the state- and local-level clean energy disputes that are currently evolving almost as quickly as the solar and wind technologies themselves. ALEC, known for advancing corporate interests, is aligned with the Koch brothers in the current heated exchange — how to make distributed solar power look bad.

<http://thinkprogress.org/climate/2014/04/25/3430835/clean-energy-solar-koch-alec/>

**Natural Resource Report - Ditch the EPA water rule** - 4/25/14 - My husband, Kevin, and I farm in Northern Missouri with his parents and brother. We are the 5th generation of farmers in our family and we raise hogs, cattle, corn, soybeans and rye. We are also raising our children on our farm and clean water is important to us. Regardless of whether Environmental Protection Agency requires it, protecting our water is one of our priorities. We want to pass our farm onto the next generation so it only makes sense that we care for our natural resources in a responsible manner.

<http://naturalresourcereport.com/2014/04/ditch-the-epa-water-rule/>

**Los Angeles Times - Calculating the costs of pollution** - 4/25/14 - Last week, a divided court of appeals upheld what may well be the most important environmental rule in the nation's history: the Environmental Protection Agency's mercury standards. The regulation is expected to prevent up to 11,000 premature deaths, 4,700 heart attacks and 130,000 asthma attacks a year.

<http://www.latimes.com/opinion/commentary/la-oe-sunstein-mercury-regulation-pollution-epa-20140425.0.5554039.story#ixzz2zuwSr5m5>

### Press Releases:

Link to all R7 press releases: <http://go.usa.gov/Qx5>

None

### Fact Sheets:

Link to all R7 fact sheets: <http://www.epa.gov/region7/factsheets>

None

### Upcoming Administrator/RA Events:

\* New additions noted with an asterisk

**4/26/14** - Family/Earth Day, Regional Office. Contact Karen Flournoy, 7782

**4/29/14** – Waters of the U.S. Outreach Event – Washburn University, Topeka, Kan. Contact: Kris Lancaster, 7557

**4/30/14** – Regional Tribal Operations Committee, Lawrence, Kan. Contact: Heather Hamilton, 7039

**4/30/14** – Westar Ribbon Cutting Ceremony, Topeka, Kan. Contact: Rebecca Weber, 7487

**5/1/14** – Waters of the U.S. Outreach Event – University of Missouri, Columbia, Mo. Contact: Kris Lancaster, 7557

**5/1/14** – Meet with Missouri Department of Agriculture Director, Richard Fordyce, Columbia, Mo. Contact: Damon Frizzell, 7560

**5/5-6/14** – Waters of the U.S. Outreach Event – Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa. Contact: Kris Lancaster, 7557

**5/12/14** – Meet with Iowa Committee for Community Improvement (ICCI) Representatives, Des Moines, Iowa. Contact: Dave Cozad, 7587

**5/12-13/14** – Waters of the U.S. Outreach Event – University of Lincoln, Lincoln, Neb. Contact: Kris Lancaster, 7557

**\*5/15/14** – OARM Diversity Training, Regional Office. Contact: Greg Davis, 7208

5/20-21/14 – Budget Planning Meeting, Washington, D.C. Contact: Julia Cacho, 7071

6/5/14 – Incident Command System Training, Regional Office. Contact: Cecilia Tapia, 7733

6/24-25/14 – Four State Directors Meeting, Nebraska City, Neb. Contact: Wendy Lubbe, 7551

7/21-22/14 – Budget Forum, Washington, D.C. Contact: Julia Cacho, 7071

#### **DRA:**

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6/24-25/14 – Four State Directors Meeting, Nebraska City, Neb. Contact: Wendy Lubbe, 7551

7/21-22/14 – Budget Forum, Washington, D.C. Contact: Julia Cacho, 7071

#### **RA/Immediate Office**

None

#### **Other Events**

#### **AWMD**

None

#### **CNSL**

None

#### **ECO/EJ**

**4/25/14** – Delaware Ridge Elementary School Earth Day Event, Kansas City, Kan. Contact: Althea Moses, 7649

#### **ENSV**

None

## **PLMG**

None

## **RA/OPA**

**9/29-30/14** - Healthy School Outreach, Missouri School Plant Managers' Association Conference, Four Seasons, Lake of the Ozarks, Mo. Contact: Kathleen Fenton, 7874 and Harry Diesel, 7382

## **SUPR**

None

## **WWPD**

**4/28-5/2/14** - Tribal Operator Certification Training and Testing provided by Indian Health Service and EPA, Sac & Fox of Missouri and Iowa, Reserve, Kan. Contact: Stan Calow, 7410

**4/28-5/4/14** – Toxic Substances and Control Act Case Development to EPA Regions 1-4 Case Management Officers, Washington, DC. Contact: Maria Morey, 7079

**5/1/14** – Meet with Missouri Department of Agriculture Director, Richard Fordyce, Columbia, Mo. Contact: Damon Frizzell, 7560

**5/5-8/14** – Environmental Leaders Institute State / Tribal / EPA Training Workshop, Shepherdstown, W.Va. Contact: Tabatha Adkins, 7128

**5/12/14** – Meet with ICCI Representatives, Des Moines, Iowa. Contacts: Dave Cozad, 7587, Karen Flournoy, 7782

**5/12-16/14** – National Total Maximum Daily Load/Measures and 303(d) Listing Conference, Denver, Co. Contacts: Tabatha Adkins, 7128, Bruce Perkins, 7067, Debby White, 7886